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October 4, 1967

Mr. William N. Morell, Jr. Director, Economic Research Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bill:

I regret this delay in answering your letter of August 28 to Joe Greenwald enclosing an outline of a proposed project of "Recent Trends in Soviet Exports of Metals and Minerals to the U.S.". I spoke to Joe about this, and he asked that I give you our views.

The proposed project seems useful to us. We have had several inquiries from the offices of Congressmen raising questions as to the degree of dependence by the United States upon imports of essential metals and minerals from the Coviet Union. We believe it would be desirable to have as complete a picture as possible of this trade.

I believe our commodity people within the Economic Bureau feel that some of the information in the suggested project, particularly on U.G. and world supply might be duplicative or at least would not plow new ground. If do not know, therefore, how high a priority you might want to give this project. If it seems useful to explore it further with someone here, you might want to arrange for direct contact between your analysts and Marion Worthing in the Office of International Resources.

Sincerely,

On file, DOC release instructions apply

DOS review completed

Robert B. Wright Director Office of Fast-West Trade

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Our people in Metals and Minerals called Marion Worthing regarding the suggested OER project. He said they do not need this study at present, but that they would need information on nickel, which we can provide on an ad hoc basis by phone. Therefore, I am asking the Branch to drop the proposed project.		
Chief, D/R		
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